

In the Specification:

Please amend paragraphs [0123] and [0171] of the specification to change the reference numeral "19" therein to read --19--. A complete copy of those paragraphs including marked-up versions of each paragraph which is amended in this Amendment appears below.

[0123] Referring to FIG. 3, the film 10 is folded over, as shown, to form the fold structure 11 and a zipper assembly 20 is inserted. Weakened areas 12 are preferably positioned below the zipper structure 20a so that when fold structure or hood 11 is removed the zipper structure 20a is exposed sufficiently above the resulting fin structures 19 18 to allow the user access to the zipper structure 20a. Zipper skirts 16 are shown bonded to the film 10. However, it is presently believed preferable, prior to insertion of the zipper assembly 20, that the uncut ends 23 (see FIG. 5) of each zipper assembly 20 be punched out or cut to form a radiused notch 22a, as shown in FIG. 7. The cut zipper assembly ends 22 are sealed together (the sealed mass 22b of FIG. 7) which will later function to retain the contents of the bag 100 such as food.

[0171] Referring to FIG. 45, the film 10 is folded over, as shown to form the fold structure 11 and a zipper assembly 20 is inserted. Weakened areas 12 are preferably positioned below the zipper structure 20a so that when the fold structure 11 is removed, the zipper structure 20a is exposed sufficiently above the resulting fin structures 19 18 to

5 allow the user access to the zipper structure 20a. Zipper skirts 16 are shown bonded to the film 10. However, it is presently believed preferable, prior to insertion of the zipper assembly 20, that the uncut ends (not seen in these views) of each zipper assembly 20 be punched out or cut to form a radiused notch 22a, as shown in FIG. 42. As seen in FIG. 45, an upper portion 324 of a backing or barrier strip 320 is attached to the inside surface 10
10 17 of one of the zipper skirts 16. A lower portion 322 of the strip 320 extends beyond the distal margin 342 of the zipper skirt 16 and is bonded to the inside surface 36a of side 36. It is presently believed preferable, prior to attachment to the zipper skirt 16, that the backing or barrier strip 320 be punched out or cut to form notch 326 (seen in FIG. 47). As may be further seen in FIG. 47, barrier strip 320 is further punched prior to insertion
15 into fold structure 11, to form notch 326a, also in register with side seal 30a. Notches 326 and 326a are positioned to be in register with radiused notch 22a of zipper assembly 20, all of which are positioned to be in register with side seal 30a, seen in FIGS. 42 and 48. Consecutive notches 326, 326a in barrier strip 320 alleviate the presence of barrier strip 320 at side seal 30a, thus facilitating a hermetic seal at area 26a (best seen in FIG. 42). The hermetic seal is obtained by sealing inside opposing surfaces 35a, 36a at 26a
20 and 30a. The inside surface 10a of parent film 10 is simultaneously sealed to the zipper skirts 16 at area 14, as seen in FIG. 45, and simultaneously, inside surfaces 17 of skirts 16 (FIG. 45) are sealed to each other in the notched out areas 326 and 326a at 26a, where the barrier strip is not present (seen best in FIG. 42).